General Assembly

Distr.: General
6 March 2001

Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 27

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/55/L.67)*]

55/218. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Recalling the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and the agreement on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity,[2] as well as all its resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, including resolution 54/94 of 8 December 1999,

Taking note of the declarations and decisions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-sixth ordinary session, held in Lomé from 10 to 12 July 2000,[3] in particular the decision relating to the adoption of the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the declaration on the Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa,

Mindful of the need for continued and closer cooperation between the United Nations and its specialized agencies and the Organization of African Unity in the peace and security, political, economic, social, technical, cultural and administrative fields,

Acknowledging the contribution of the United Nations Liaison Office in strengthening coordination and cooperation between the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations since its establishment in Addis Ababa in April 1998,

Emphasizing the importance of the effective implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[4] and welcoming in this regard the commitments of Member States to respond to the special needs of Africa,

Noting the efforts being made by the Organization of African Unity and its member States in the area of economic integration and the need to accelerate the

[1] A/55/498.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 548, No. 614 (Part II).
[3] See A/55/286, annex II.
[4] See resolution 55/2.

process of implementation of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community,[5]

Noting also the progress made by the Organization of African Unity in developing the capacity of its Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, including with the assistance of the United Nations and the international community,

Stressing the urgent need to address the plight of refugees and internally displaced persons in Africa, and noting in this context the efforts made to implement the recommendations of the Organization of African Unity Ministerial Meeting on Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Africa, held in Khartoum on 13 and 14 December 1998, as well as the endorsement by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, at its seventy-second session, of the Comprehensive Implementation Plan adopted at the special meeting of governmental and non-governmental technical experts organized by the Organization of African Unity and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at Conakry from 27 to 29 March 2000,

Recognizing the importance of developing and maintaining a culture of peace, tolerance and harmonious relationships based on the promotion of economic development, democratic principles, good governance, the rule of law, human rights, social justice and international cooperation,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Liaison Office with the Organization of African Unity;

3. *Welcomes* the continuing participation in and constructive contribution of the Organization of African Unity to the work of the United Nations, its organs and specialized agencies, and calls upon the two organizations to enhance the involvement of the Organization of African Unity in all United Nations activities concerning Africa;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General closely to involve the Organization of African Unity in the implementation of the commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[4] especially those that relate to meeting the special needs of Africa;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to implement the recommendations of the annual meeting of the two organizations held in Addis Ababa on 10 and 11 April 2000, in particular those relating to priority programmes of the Organization of African Unity as specified in section III of the report of the Secretary-General;

6. *Requests* the United Nations to intensify its assistance to the Organization of African Unity in strengthening the institutional and operational capacity of its Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, in particular in the following areas:

(*a*) Development of its early warning system;

(*b*) Technical assistance and training of civilian and military personnel, including a staff exchange programme;

[5] A/46/651, annex.

(*c*) Exchange and coordination of information, including between the early warning systems of the two organizations;

(*d*) Logistical support, including in the area of mine clearance;

(*e*) Mobilization of financial support, including through the trust funds of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity;

7. *Urges* the United Nations to encourage donor countries, in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, to contribute to adequate funding, training and logistical support for African countries in their efforts to enhance their peacekeeping capabilities, with a view to enabling those countries to participate actively in peacekeeping operations within the framework of the United Nations;

8. *Requests* the agencies of the United Nations system working in Africa to include in their programmes at the national, subregional and regional levels activities to support African countries in their efforts to enhance regional economic cooperation and integration;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations agencies to intensify the coordination of their regional programmes in Africa to ensure the effective harmonization of their programmes with those of the African regional and subregional economic organizations and contribute to creating a positive environment for economic development and investment;

10. *Calls upon* the international community to support and enhance the capacity of African countries to take advantage of the opportunities offered by globalization and to overcome the challenges it poses, as a means of ensuring sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

11. *Calls upon* the United Nations to support actively the efforts of the Organization of African Unity in urging the donor community and, where appropriate, multilateral institutions to strive to meet the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance, to implement fully, speedily and effectively the enhanced programme of debt relief for the heavily indebted poor countries, and to achieve the goal of securing debt relief in a comprehensive and effective manner in favour of African countries through various national and international measures designed to make their debt sustainable in the long term;

12. *Calls upon* all Member States and regional and international organizations, in particular those of the United Nations system, as well as non-governmental organizations, to provide additional assistance to the Organization of African Unity and those Governments in Africa concerned with the problems of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

13. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to ensure the effective and equitable representation of African men and women at senior and policy levels at their respective headquarters and in their regional field of operations;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

88th plenary meeting
21 December 2000